

METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR ENHANCING THE PERFORMANCE OF A  
FIXED FOCAL LENGTH IMAGING DEVICE

ABSTRACT

A group of pixels obtained using an imaging device is converted into a group of pixels having an equal or lower count by receiving at least first and second input pixels having an initial intensity value, forming at least one intermediate intensity value from each of the first and second input pixels, and combining the intermediate intensity values formed from the first and second input pixels to form at least one output pixel. This allows the pixels formed to have improved signal-to-noise characteristics, and it reduces transmission rates. A feature of the present invention allows a distance between the imaging device and an object to be used to select the number of output pixels formed. Another feature of the present invention allows a change in distance between the imaging device and an object to be used to dynamically adjust the number of output pixels formed. A further feature of the invention allows a variable resolution image to be converted to a fixed resolution image.

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